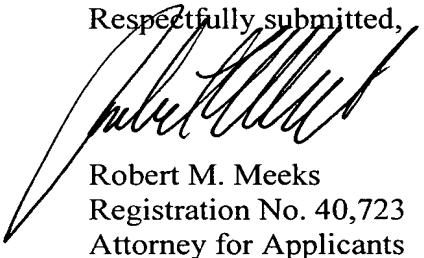


REMARKS

In response to the Restriction Requirement of May 13, 2004, Applicants hereby elect Invention I, corresponding to Claims 1-28. Applicants have canceled Claims 29-45 corresponding to Invention II. This cancellation is being done without prejudice to the filing of any divisional application for these and/or other claims. This election is without traverse because Applicants agree that a determination of the unpatentability of Invention I would not necessarily imply the unpatentability of Invention II.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request favorable examination and allowance of Claims 1-28.

Respectfully submitted,

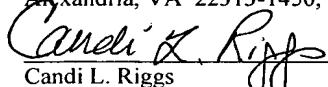


Robert M. Meeks
Registration No. 40,723
Attorney for Applicants

USPTO Customer No. 20792
Myers Bigel Sibley & Sajovec
Post Office Box 37428
Raleigh, North Carolina 27627
Telephone: 919/854-1400
Facsimile: 919/854-1401

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on May 18, 2004.



Candi L. Riggs
Candi L. Riggs